

Attachment 9

Water Quality and Other Expected Benefits

Other Benefits

This phase of the overall project will improve flood protection by the construction of an overflow bypass culvert in the Reach 2A portion of the Lower Mission Creek project between Yanonali Street and the Union Pacific Railroad.

The benefits, other than flood damage reduction, associated with the project are water quality, environmental and aesthetic, and are purely qualitative in nature, thus no monetary value is assigned to these items.

Water Quality

This project will provide a bypass box culvert that will convey storm water from large events and allow lower flows to remain in the existing “oxbow” channel instead of flooding an urbanized area, which would be detrimental to water quality. The existing channel has a soft bottom to allow for water infiltration which will protect and improve groundwater.

Environmental

The proposed project will allow the existing creek channel to remain untouched. The existing channel will continue to convey lower flows providing a quality habitat for migrating steelhead, tidewater goby and other fish. The Southern California steelhead and tidewater goby are on the endangered species list. Because the impact to the population of these species has not been quantified, the benefit is qualitative.

Aesthetic Benefits

Retaining the existing creek channel will maintain an existing habitat for local wildlife and also improve the aesthetic appeal of the surrounding area.